

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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INFO DEA HDQS WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: COMPASS TRIP

DEA HDQS FOR EOI - CUSACK

REF: DEA 7544

1. IN SEPT. 27 CONVERSATION CONCERNING "COMPASS TRIP",
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL ROSALES MIRANDA WAS GIVEN ALL DATA
ON ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL SHRIKE TRANSMITTED REFTEL.
ROSALES IMMEDIATELY INITIATED STEPS TO OBTAIN GOM REGISTRY
OF AIRCRAFT, PROMISING TO GET REGISTRY NUMBER AND REGIS-
TRATION CERTIFICATE TO US SOONEST.

2. ROSALES CALLED CAPTAIN VIDEZ, CHIEF OF AERO SERVICES,
INTO HIS OFFICE FOR CONSULTATION. THEY AGREED THAT IF
POSSIBLE AND NOT CAUSING DELAY IN DELIVERY OF AIRCRAFT, THE
STRIPES SHOULD BE CHANGED FROM GREEN TO BLUE (THE COLORS OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE). IN ANY CASE, AIRCRAFT
REGISTRATION NUMBERS SHOULD BE PAINTED IN BLACK.

3. EMBOFF PASSED ON TRAINING REQUIREMENTS TRANSMITTED
REFTEL. ROSALES AND VIDEZ SAID THE PILOT, COPILOT AND
MECHANIC FOR THE SHRIKE HAD ALREADY BEEN SELECTED. THEY
ASKED, HOWEVER, THAT TWO PILOTS BE TRAINED, TO PROVIDE
BACKUP CAPABILITY IN CASE OF PILOT FATIGUE, ETC. PLEASE
ADVISE US IF THIS TRAINING FOR FOUR PERSONS CAN BE

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PROVIDED, AND WE WILL THEN SEND NAMES OF PERSONS SELECTED.

ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT SEEN IT SPELLED OUT, WE ASSUME TRAINING IS INCLUDED IN COST OF AIRCRAFT. IS GOM EXPECTED TO PAY TRAVEL COSTS OF CREW TO OKLAHOMA, OR IS THIS TO BE ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS?

4. REGARDING SELECTION OF "COMPASS TRIP" SITE, ROSALES AND VIDEZ AGREED THAT ALTHOUGH LOS MOCHIS WOULD BE GOOD CHOICE BASED ON LOCATION, CONTINUOUS CROSS WINDS AND POOR AVGAS SUPPLY RULE IT OUT AS PRACTICAL CHOICE, THE ALTERNATIVES ARE CIUDAD OBREGON AND CULIACAN, WITH FINAL SELECTION LEANING TOWARD LATTER. ALTHOUGH IT CONSIDERED LESS DSIRABLE FOR "COMPASS TRIP" BASE BECAUSE OF PROPINQUITY TO TRADITIONALIST MILITARY COMMAND BASE, CULIACAN DOES HAVE OTHER GREAT ADVANTAGES BECAUSE OF ITS CENTRAL LOCATION, GOOD FACILITIES AND DESIRABLE FLYING CONDITIONS. ROSALES SAID ATTORNEY GENERAL WOULD MAKE FINAL CHOICE NEXT WEEK AND WOULD INFORM US IMMEDIATELY.
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